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1. On 26 January 1949, Captain Jorge Osinde, head of the Coordination Federal section of the Federal Police, delivered to the President a detailed report on Communist activities. Immediately thereafter it was rumored in the Casa Rosada that Peron was preparing an offensive designed to curb Communist sabotage, slowdowns, and strikes in Argentine industry. This action was said to have been suggested by Army heads, leaders of the Confederacion General del Trabajo (CGT), and several congressmen, all of whom urged that the President take decisive action before it is too late.
2. Various government agencies (Federal Police, Army, Air Force, CGT) have investigated industrial sabotage and submitted reports to the President. Some of the sabotage reported to the executive office included fires, mechanical break-downs, rusted equipment, damaged fire-fighting equipment, cut belts, nails on roads leading to military establishments, water in gasoline tanks, sand in engines, etc. Several Peronista congressmen, after conferring with police officials, are contemplating a congressional investigation to determine the origin of recent fires and railroad accidents.
3. The local nationalist organization, Asociacion Defensa Social Argentina (ADSA), initiated an investigation on 27 January to determine the extent of Communist penetration and sabotage in the textile and steel industries of the country. ADSA has criticized the President for being slow in taking action against saboteurs.
4. Counter-measures adopted by the government have been relatively ineffective. The government has been unable to discover whether the sabotage is a coordinated offensive of some political party or merely a series of disconnected incidents. However, the consensus in government circles is that the Communists are responsible, in spite of the fact that there is no concrete evidence to substantiate this assertion.
5. Soldiers are now being used on a 24-hour basis to guard airports against sabotage. Federal Police formerly guarded airports and other strategic installations, but they are no longer able to cover adequately all the strategic areas as it is now deemed advisable to leave no government installation or major factory unguarded. Consequently, the government is forming a special guard organization whose sole

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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purpose will be to prevent sabotage and Communist activities at airports, railroads, factories, and other strategic installations. This special force will be under the jurisdiction of a combined military-civilian labor board which will work in close cooperation with the Labor Department, the Federal Police, and the Armed Forces.

6. Present indications are that one of the first measures to be adopted by the government in its campaign to reduce sabotage and boost production will be to arrest strike agitators and charge them with violation of law No. 12,921 which deals with crimes against the security of the state.
7. Seven steel workers in Santiago del Estero (Juan Pereyra, Mario Daverio, Jose Peralta, Juan Jose Sanchez, Mario Zelada, Segundo Ledesma, and Jorge Ilapur) were arrested on 2 February and charged with violation of law No. 12,921. They immediately sent an appeal to the President, but before reaching him it was destroyed by Juan Duarte, the President's secretary.
8. Five detectives of the Casa Rosada force have been currently investigating the labor situation in the meat packing industry and, if necessary, will arrest agitators.
9. The railroad police of Rosario, with the help of Federal Police, are reported to have conducted an extensive search for arms and ammunition in the railroad shops of Perez Millan (a small community located on the Buenos Aires-Rosario railroad line, 188 kilometers from the Federal Capital). It had been suspected that the Communists were using the shops as an arms cache. Some of the railroad workers staged a protest strike because of the police investigation. Comandante Gerardo de Beaumont, interventor of the railroad, went to Rosario on 25 January to settle the matter.

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